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Metal-poor stars in the CFHT Pristine Survey

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The Pristine Survey is a narrow-band photometric survey focused on the metallicity-sensitive Ca H & K lines and conducted in the northern hemisphere with the wide-field MegaCam on the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope. The main aims of the survey are to uncover a statistical sample of the most metal-poor stars in the Galaxy, to further characterize the smallest Milky Way satellites, and to map the metal-poor substructure in the Galactic halo. In addition, we expect to increase the number of rare chemically peculiar metal-poor stars that are important constraints for nucleosynthesis (r-II stars, alpha-challenged stars, etc). High-resolution spectroscopic follow-up observations pf the brightest targets have begun with the CFHT Espadons spectrograph. Initial chemical abundances of several very metal-poor stars are typical of stars in the Galactic halo, but the prospects for finding more rare objects are exciting.

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